

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An apparatus for a pivot assembly comprising:

at least one pair of ball bearings;

a shaft having a first end and a second end to each of which one of the at least one pair of ball bearings has been mated;

a sleeve, disposed between the at least one pair of ball bearings and the first end of the shaft, such that the sleeve is mated to an inner wall of an outer circumference of the at least one pair of ball bearings; and

a seal member fixed to an outer circumference of the shaft and to an inner circumference of the sleeve, so as to cover an outer end face of the at least one ball bearing,

wherein the seal member has a cut in a radial direction along the entire circumference towards a middle.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the seal member is fixed by welding to the outer circumference to the shaft.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the seal member has a cut along an entire circumference.

4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the cut is of a thin-width and in a direction inclined with respect to an axis line of the shaft.